**WASHINGTON** – The U.S. Department of Labor today approved Avondale Mills' application for Trade Adjustment Assistance. As a result, Avondale employees are eligible to receive retraining, wage and healthcare assistance from the federal government.

Congressmen Spencer Bachus and Mike Rogers recently met with Assistant Secretary of Labor Emily Stover DeRocco regarding expedition of Avondale's TAA application. Bachus and Rogers also wrote Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao requesting her support.

"The employees of Avondale Mills are some of the best and brightest in our area. They are hard workers who are loyal and committed to their company and their communities.

I am delighted the U.S. Department of Labor has expedited the process to provide training and assistance as these workers begin a career transition," Bachus said.

TAA provides up to two years of federal assistance to workers who have lost their jobs due to foreign competition.

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